

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT AND COMMENTS

1. The response, remarks and amendments filed 24 May 2010 are acknowledged and entered.

Rejections Withdrawn

2. In consideration of remarks and amendments filed 24 May 2010 following objections and rejections in Non-Final Office Action mailed 22 February 2010 are hereby withdrawn:

- Objection to specification for incomplete application priority data;
- Lack of enablement of scope to Claims 10-13 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph; and
- Indefiniteness rejection of Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claims Status

3. According to the Amended Claim set filed 24 May 2010 the Claims status is as follows:

- ⌚ Claims 1-23 are pending;
- ⌚ Claims 1-9 and 14-23 are withdrawn;
- ⌚ Claims 10-11 and 13 have currently been amended;
- ⌚ Claims 10-13 are under examination and are examined on merits.

Information Disclosure Statement

4. Information Disclosure Statements respectively filed on 09 April and on 24 May 2010 are acknowledged, have been made of record, have been considered and duly initialed PTO FORM 1449 or equivalent are enclosed with the instant Office Action.

Examiner's Amendment

5. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicants, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R.

§1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview on 16 July 2010 with Ms. J. Hayes, Applicants' Representative.

In the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the instant application:

1-9 (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) A method for removing reactivity to a limulus reagent of lipoarabinomannan in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample ~~to a Limulus reagent~~, comprising:

~~which comprises~~ allowing one or more substance(s) to coexist with said sample, wherein said substance is selected from the group consisting of ~~selected from the following group to coexist with the sample:~~

a surfactant, an anti-tuberculosis antibody, an anti-lipoarabinomannan antibody, a (1→3)-β-glucan, a carboxymethylated (1→3)-β-glucan, a factor G activation inhibitor, a strong alkaline substance, polymyxin B, colistin, concanavalin A, histidine and histamine;

11. (Currently amended) A method for measuring an endotoxin in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample, comprising:

~~which comprises~~ removing reactivity of lipoarabinomannan to a Limulus reagent by the method of claim 10[.];

ontacting said sample with a Limulus reagent [,.]; and

detecting or measuring the Limulus reaction induced by said endotoxin.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the Limulus reagent is an endotoxin-specific Limulus reagent.

13. (Previously presented) A method for detecting an endotoxin-related disease, which comprises detecting or measuring an endotoxin in a lipoarabinomannan-containing sample according to the method of claim 11.

14-23 (Cancelled).

Conclusion

6. Claims 10-13 are allowed.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Kailash C. Srivastava whose telephone number is (571) 272-0923. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 7:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. (Eastern Standard or Daylight Savings Time).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jon Weber can be reached at (571)-272-0925 Monday through Thursday 7:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (i.e., PAIR) system. Status information for the published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (i.e., EBC) at: (866)-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Kailash C Srivastava/
Examiner, Art Unit 1657

Kailash C. Srivastava
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1657
(571) 272-0923

16 July 2010

/JON P WEBER/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1657